

Message Text

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TO USMISSION OECD PARIS

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 178783

EXCON

E.O. 11652: XGDS-1

TAGS:ESTC,COCOM, US, UR

SUBJECT: EXPORTS OF URANIUM ORE CONCENTRATE TO THE USSR FOR
TOLL ENRICHMENT

REF : COCOM DOC(73)1627

1. USDEL REQUESTED SUBMIT FOLLOWING STATEMENT TO COMMITTEE
AS US COMMENTS ON REFDOC AND POSITION ON TOLL ENRICHING IN
USSR.

2. "US AUTHORITIES HAVE NOTED WITH SOME CONCERN GERMAN
DELEGATION STATEMENT THAT THEY INTEND TO PROCEED UNILATERAL-
LY WITH EXPORT OF EMBARGOED NUCLEAR MATERIAL TO USSR FOR
TOLL ENRICHMENT WITHOUT FIRST SEEKING COMMITTEE AUTHORIZA-
TION UNDER EXCEPTIONS PROCEDURES OR RAISING THE QUESTION OF
POSSIBLE NEW PROCEDURES IN THE COMMITTEE FOR COMMENTS AND
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VIEWS. THE GERMAN DELEGATION ACTION SEEMS PARTICULARLY

UNFORTUNATE SINCE AT LEAST SOME OF THE INFORMATION ON WHICH IT BASES ITS UNILATERAL ACTION IS INCORRECT. THE UNITED STATES ATOMIC ENERGY COMMISSION HAS UNDER CONSIDERATION A REQUEST BY THE GENERAL ELECTRIC COMPANY TO HAVE TOLL ENRICHMENT SERVICES PERFORMED IN THE USSR. WHILE NO DECISION HAS AS YET BEEN MADE ON THIS REQUEST, ANY FAVORABLE DECISION MADE AT THIS TIME WOULD STIPULATE THAT PRIOR COCOM AUTHORIZATION WOULD BE REQUIRED.

3. THE GERMAN DELEGATION WILL RECALL THAT THE US GOVERNMENT URGED THE GERMAN GOVERNMENT TO SUBMIT THEIR FIRST REQUEST FOR TOLL ENRICHMENT TO THE COMMITTEE UNDER THE AD HOC EXCEPTIONS PROCEDURE. THE US DELEGATION ALSO URGED THE FRENCH DELEGATION TO SUBMIT AN EXCEPTIONS REQUEST FOR TOLL ENRICHMENT SERVICES THEY ARE ACQUIRING IN THE USSR.

4. US AUTHORITIES BELIEVE THAT COCOM CAN ONLY BE A STRONG AND VIABLE ORGANIZATION IF ALL MEMBERS WORK IN CONCERT WITH EACH OTHER ON BASIS OF ESTABLISHED AND MUTUALLY AGREED RULES AND PROCEDURES. SINCE THERE ARE PRESENTLY NO EXTRAORDINARY PROCEDURES GOVERNING TOLL ENRICHMENT OF WESTERN ORIGIN NATURAL URANIUM IN THE USSR, US AUTHORITIES BELIEVE THAT IN THE ABSENCE OF ANY NEW PROCEDURES PROPOSED TRANSACTIONS OF THIS TYPE SHOULD BE SUBJECT TO NORMAL COCOM EXCEPTION PROCEDURES. US AUTHORITIES ARE WILLING, HOWEVER, TO CONSIDER THE QUESTION IN THE COMMITTEE OF ESTABLISHING SEPARATE COCOM PROCEDURES GOVERNING THE TEMPORARY EXPORT OF URANIUM TO THE USSR FOR TOLL ENRICHING IN ORDER THAT AGREEMENT CAN BE REACHED AMONG THE MEMBERS HOW THESE KINDS OF CASES SHOULD BE HANDLED.

5. FOR ITS PART, THE US IS WILLING TO CONSIDER A SPECIAL PROCEDURE WHICH WOULD PERMIT MEMBER COUNTRIES TO EXPORT URANIUM OF NORMAL ISOTOPIC COMPOSITION TO THE USSR FOR TOLL ENRICHMENT WITHOUT PRIOR COMMITTEE APPROVAL PROVIDED (A) THE PROPOSED TRANSACTION IS REPORTED IN ADVANCE TO THE COMMITTEE, AND (B) ALL OF THE URANIUM SHIPPED INTO THE USSR IS REMOVED FROM THE USSR AND RETURNED TO THE EXPORTING COUNTRY OR SOME OTHER COUNTRY OUTSIDE OF THE BLOC, INCLUDING THE DEPLETED URANIUM (TAILS).
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6. THE US AUTHORITIES WOULD BE PLEASED TO HEAR THE VIEWS OF THE OTHER PCS ON THIS PROPOSAL. RUSH

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Message Attributes

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Draft Date: 07 SEP 1973
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Disposition Authority: morefirh
Disposition Case Number: n/a
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Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
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